

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for cultivating amphibious animals, comprising:
 - at least one container having a floor supporting the animals, and sidewalls connected to the floor extending upward there from and forming an interior of the container;
 - a feed collection area formed in the container supporting feed for animals; and,
 - a means, operatively connected to the container, for moving the feed particles within the feed collection area to simulate live feed.
2. The system of claim 1, the means for moving comprising discharging air through an air opening disposed in the feed collection area to move the feed particles on a perforated cover at the opening, the air from an air supply source is operatively connected to the container through the air opening in the feed collection area.
3. The system of claim 2 wherein the feed collection area comprises a trough depending from a floor of the container, comprising at least one trough floor inclined downward to the air opening, and having a top opening in communication with the interior of the container, and said container is supported in spaced relation to a floor of a cultivating room
4. The system of claim 3 comprising an air blower as the air supply source.
5. The system of claim 4 additionally comprising a heater to heat the air so as to maintain a temperature between about 40 and about 85 degrees Fahrenheit in the container.
6. The system of claim 1 additionally comprising a feed dispenser disposed above the feed collection area of the at least one container.

7. The system of claim 4, the feed dispenser comprising a feed container for receiving and storing feed particles, the feed container having at least one opening at its bottom, a plate disposed across the bottom, spaced a distance from the bottom to permit feed particles to pass, and a rod pivoting from the container, attaching to the plate, and extending into the container, adjusted to tilt the plate to distribute feed particles upon a movement of the rod.
8. The system of claim 1, the means for moving comprising a mechanism for vibrating the feed collection area.
9. A system for feeding amphibious animals, comprising:
an upright rack;
a plurality of containers, within which the amphibious animals are cultivated, supported on the rack and each container having a floor and sidewalls connected to the floor extending upward there from and forming an interior of the container;
an artificial feed source in communication with each container for dispensing artificial feed into each container;
a trough depending from the bottom of the container, having a top opening in fluid communication with the interior of the container and supporting feed for animals; and,
an air supply source in fluid communication with the trough on each container and discharging air through the trough to move the feed in the trough.
10. A method for feeding frogs cultivated in captivity, comprising the steps of:
providing at least one cultivation container in which the frogs are cultivated, said container having a feed collection area therein;
dispensing artificial feed within the container to the collection area; and,
providing a force to the container to move the artificial feed within the container to simulate live feed.
11. The method of claim 10, the providing a force comprising discharging air through an air opening in the feed collection area to move the feed, the air from an air supply source in fluid communication with the container through the feed collection area.

12. The method of claim 10, the providing a force comprising vibrating the feed collection area.
13. An air-activated feed trough assembly for use in a cultivation container for culture of amphibians, comprising:
- a. a trough body comprising an outer perimeter adapted to join a floor of the cultivation chamber, comprising a trough floor sloping downward from said outer perimeter to an air opening ;
 - b. a perforated cover at the air opening, forming a surface on which to collect feed particles;
 - c. an air supply line connecting to said air opening; and
 - d. a source of air in fluid communication with the air supply line.
14. The air-activated feed trough of claim 13 additionally comprising a vertical wall disposed between the outer perimeter and the trough floor.
15. A method to present feed particles to amphibians in a cultivation container comprising:
- a. in a feed collection area of the cultivation container, comprising at least one sloped floor sloping downward to an opening in fluid communication with a source of air, collecting feed particles from the at least one sloped floor on a perforated cover disposed at the opening; and
 - b. propelling feed particles from the perforated cover into the airspace with an airflow through the opening from the source of air.
16. The method of claim 15, said collecting comprising passive rolling of feed particles from points on the at least one sloped floor, the points being landing points from landing of feed particles after a period of said propelling.

17. The method of claim 16, said collecting additionally comprising activating a vibrator affixed to the feed collection area, wherein said vibrating moves feed particles that had become stationary on the at least one sloped floor.